Cases of death penalty pending in Supreme Court

†1397. SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of death penalty pending with the Supreme Court in which the accused has been confined to imprisonment for the last ten years; and

(b) the number of prisoners 60 years ago who have been sentenced to death by hanging?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) As per information available with the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) the number of prisoners above 50 years of age kept in Jails as on 31st December, 2002, 31st December 2003 and 31 st December 2004 awarded with capital punishment is 33,27 and 49 respectively. The number of prisoners of 60 years of age who have been sentenced to death by hanging is not available. For collection of data by NCRB, the uppermost age group of convicts is above 50 years.

Disposal of pending cases

1398. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending in civil and criminal courts, district courts and High Courts of the country, civil and criminal cases separately, State-wise.

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to clear the heavy backlog of cases in various courts in the country;

(c) the average time taken for disposal of cases by courts in the country, separately for civil and criminal cases; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) whether it is proposed to fix definite time for the disposal of cases by the courts as the delay in justice means almost denial of justice and the affected people undergo innumerable sufferings due to delay in rendering justice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) A Statement-I indicating the number of cases, civil and criminal, separately, pending in District and Subordinate Courts, State-wise is enclosed (*See* below). A similar Statement-II in respect of the various High Courts is enclosed (*See* below).

(b) In order to clear the pending cases in various courts, the Government has initiated a number of measures which include timely filling up of the vacancies of judges, increasing the judge strength, grouping of cases involving common questions of law, organizing Lok Adalats at regular intervals, encouraging alternative modes of dispute resolution like negotiation, mediation and arbitration, and setting up of special courts, Family Courts and Labour Courts. The Government has extended the term of 1562 Fast Track Courts for a further period of 5 years beyond 31.3.2005.

(c) and (d) Matters connected with time taken for disposal of a case in court are in the domain of the judiciary.

Statement-I

Pendency position in District and Subordinate Courts

Sl. No.	Name of States/UTs.	As on	Civil cases	Criminal cases	Total pendency
1.	Andhra Pradesh	31/12/05	494293	466124	960417
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	31/12/05	847	6410	7257
3.	Assam	31/12/05	49633	141195	190828
4.	Bihar	30/6/05	230159	1047533	1277692
5.	Chhattisgarh	30/6/05	49557	210045	259602
6.	Goa	31/12/05	20644	13671	34315
7.	Gujarat	30/6/06	783662	3152284	3935946

1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	Haryana	31/12/05	202525	304323	506848
9.	H. P.	31/12/05	64336	113080	177416
10.	J & K	30/12/04	48132	83812	131944
11.	Jharkhand	30/6/05	52709	243316	296025
12.	Karnataka	31/12/05	577958	490338	1068296
13.	Kerala	31/12/05	418592	489261	907853
14.	M.P.	31/12/05	194240	758738	952978
15.	Maharashtra	31/12/05	748760	2579121	3327881
16.	Manipur	31/12/05	3304	1812	5116
17.	Meghalaya	31/12/05	4193	6979	11172
18.	Mizoram	30/6/05	1935	5952	7887
19.	Nagaland	31/12/05	1018	3076	4094
20.	Orissa	30/6/05	177094	731173	908267
21.	Punjab	31/12/05	247927	312529	560456
22.	Rajasthan	31/12/05	293220	757154	1050374
23.	Sikkim	31/12/05	209	442	651
24.	Tamil Nadu	31/12/04	383684	351923	735607
25.	Tripura	31/12/05	6983	25899	32882
26.	Uttar Pradesh	31/12/05	1188440	3552101	4740541
27.	Uttaranchal	31/12/05	26222	99634	125856
28.	West Bengal	31/12/05	512947	1428280	1941227
29.	A & N Island	31/12/05	1291	46385	47676
30.	Chandigarh	31/12/05	20472	59522	79994
31.	D & N Haveli	30/6/04	550	2457	3007
32.	Daman & Diu	30/6/04	752	860	1612
33.	Delhi	31/12/05	129248	666850	796098
34.	Lakshadweep	30/6/04	75	45	120
35.	Pondicherry	31/12/04	7976	6306	14282
	TOTAL:		6943587	18158630	25102217

Statement - II

Pendency in High Courts

Sl. No.	Name of States/UTs.	As on	Civil cases	Criminal cases	Total
1.	Allahabad	30.6.06	584499	207651	792150
2.	A.P.	31.12.05	141249	18570	159819
3.	Bombay	31.5.06	320840	37191	358031
4.	Calcutta	30.6.06	227485	37887	265372
5.	Delhi	30.5.06	95589	30923	126512
6.	Gujarat	31.12.05	100488	30897	131385
7.	Gauhati	30.6.06	52418	6900	59318
8.	H.P.	30.6.06	19034	5993	25027
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	31.12.05	39529	2444	41973
10.	Karnataka	31.12.05	73157	12754	85911
11.	Kerala	31.12.05	109316	24060	133376
12.	Madras	31.12.05	334383	29168	363551
13.	M.P.	31.12.05	130259	55759	186018
14.	Orissa	31.12.05	186113	17717	203830
15.	Patna	31.12.05	66549	25033	91582
16.	Punjab & Haryana	31.12.05	201151	42320	243471
17.	Rajasthan	31.12.05	158318	47867	206185
18.	Sikkim	30.6.06	47	11	58
19.	Uttaranchal	30.6.06	31518	7422	38940
20.	Chhattisgarh	31.12.05	49521	23382	72903
21.	Jharkhand	30.6.06	25665	18710	44375
	TOTAL:		2947128	682659	3629787

Amendments in election laws

1399. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether various Government are seriously considering to amend the election law in the country;